

The News is the Official Paper of the Board of Public Instruction of DeSoto County, also Publishes All the County Commissioners Reports and Proceedings

## GERMANS CONTINUE VAIN ATTEMPT TO BREAK THE LINES OF THE ALLIES

THE FRENCH FORCES REPULSE ATTACKS MADE BY THE ENEMY, AND CONTINUE ACTIVE ARTILLERY OPERATION IN THE REGION OF AMIENS. THEY ALSO CAPTURE MANY IMPORTANT HILL POSITIONS.

### GERMANS BUSY BOMBARDING

PEACE PALACE AT SOISSONS FALLS A PREY TO GERMAN FIRE, WHILE THE CITY IS BEING SHELLED BY THE ENEMY.

Paris, Jan. 9.—Fighting in the vicinity of Amiens indicates the Germans are maintaining their efforts to break through the allies and cut lines of communications from Flanders and Paris. It is officially announced this afternoon there have been artillery duels in the Amiens region and the vicinity of Arras. Around Souper, the French captured a hill in three attacks and repulsed all efforts of the Germans to recapture it. The French took three trenches of six hundred yards in this region. The Germans bombarded Soissons, burning the palace of justice there. South of Ypres the French reinforced, recaptured Burnhaupst, at an enormous cost of lives.

Offsetting the capture of this town by the Germans, the French captured the town of Perthes, held by the Germans several weeks.

The following official communication was issued yesterday:

"To the south of Soissons we have captured a German redoubt, taking two successive lines of trenches, and coming to the third line. Three counterattacks by the Germans failed.

In the Argonne a very violent German attack on the summit of the heights of Chevauchee, was made. We were at first forced to retire one kilometre at the front here, but later made counter attacks and recovered our positions.

The artillery of the enemy showed, during all the day of January 7, great activity in Belgium and in the vicinity of Arras. The French artillery responded spiritedly and efficaciously.

Our infantry made some progress near Lombaertzyde. We occupied a point fifty yards in advance of our trenches, a hillock, which had been held by the enemy. To the east of St. Georges we gained ground, and we inflicted serious damage on the trench at the enemy in the vicinity of Steenkerke.

In the section of Arras at the fort of Berthouval, without being attacked, we were compelled to evacuate certain trenches where our men were up to their shoulders in sand and mud. To the left of Boisselle our line of trenches has been moved forward, and we occupied the road from Boisselle to Aveluy.

In the valley of the Aisne the artillery exchanges were quite spirited. Our heavy artillery secured good results near Basse Sables. At this point the mine throwers of the enemy inflicted losses on us, but in the afternoon we checked this fire from the Germans.

In the section of Rheims, to the west of the forest Des Zouaves, we took up a block house and occupied a new trench 200 yards in advance of our lines.

The artillery engagement between the enemy and Prumay was conducted yesterday with great fierceness. The Germans left many dead on the field. Our losses were not heavy. Between Jemery-Sur-Sulippe and Souain we again reduced to silence the artillery of the enemy, demolished his trenches and destroyed his breastworks.

In the Argonne to the west of Basse Chevauchee, the enemy, by means of a mine, blew up some of our line of trenches, which were completely demolished. A violent attack undertaken at once by the enemy on our positions was repulsed with the bayonet. We took some prisoners, and we maintained our front except for a distance of eighty yards. Here the demolition of the trenches obliged us to establish our line twenty yards further in the back.

On the heights of the Meuse and between the Meuse and the Moselle there is nothing to report. Here the wind blew a tempest all day long.

Our offensive continued yesterday in the region of Tann and near Alt. and brought important results. We recaptured the trenches on the eastern flank of Hill 425, a position where the enemy two days ago succeeded in establishing himself. We gained some ground to the east of these trenches. Further to the east we occupied Burnhaupst-Haut.

## BORDER FIRING CONFAB ATTENDED BY VILLA

SETTLEMENT EXPECTED TODAY.

CARRANZA REPORTS TERRIBLE PUNISHMENT TO ARMY UNDER HIS FORMER CHIEF LIEUTENANT.

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 9.—General Hugh L. Scott, General Francisco Villa and Governor Maytorena, of Sonora, met in conference yesterday, the first of a series planned to solve the problem of protecting American border towns from bullets of belligerents on the Mexican side.

The meeting took place in the United States immigrant station at the American end of the bridge spanning the Rio Grande between El Paso and Juarez.

No official statement was given out except that the first meeting was cordial and that it would be continued.

Villa was accompanied by his entire staff, and General Scott by his aide, Lieutenant Colonel R. E. L. Mitchell, who acted as interpreter. Governor Maytorena, who was attacking the Carranza garrison at Naco, when the question came up, was sent with his legal adviser, General Villa and Scott chatted sociably for an hour. The meetings will be closed as soon as possible.

Eight thousand Villa men are en route toward the border, and Villa announces his intention to use them to crush the remainder of the Carranza border garrisons in towns opposite Naco and Douglas, Arizona.

### Villa's Intention Reaches Washington.

Washington, Jan. 9.—General Villa's intention to attack the Carranza garrison at Naco was communicated to the war department yesterday in official dispatches from army observers. Secretary Garrison said however, that the information came from the American side of the border.

When shown a report that Villa had notified General Scott of his intention of attacking the border town in an effort finally to dislodge the Carranza forces, Secretary Garrison said he had received no report from the chief of staff since he left Naco for El Paso.

The Carranza agency issued this statement, based on reports from Vera Cruz:

"In the streets of Puebla 700 dead were gathered, and dead Villa troops were found scattered for thirty miles outside the city. More than 2,000 Villa troops surrendered voluntarily. The railroad from Puebla to Vera Cruz is being kept open."

### Carranzaists Besiege Saltillo.

Laredo, Texas, Jan. 9.—An attack on Villa troops in Saltillo was begun by about 15,000 constitutionalist troops about 3 o'clock yesterday morning. Early reports from the battle stated that hundreds already had been killed or wounded. The Carranza forces were attacking from the mountains about the city and were pouring in a fire from fifteen cannon.

The Villa troops occupied Saltillo two days ago by a ruse and without a fight. The Carranza forces there, under General Antonio I. Villareal, had evacuated the city to proceed against the Villa forces which they met and defeated at LaBrisa and Marte. Meanwhile another Villa force had marched through the mountains to the southeast of Saltillo, entering and capturing the city. The Carranza army returned in force early today.

Reports at noon from Carranza sources claimed that the advantage lay with the besiegers, but the battle still was in progress.

### Saltillo Battle Indecisive.

San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 9.—Yesterday's battle at Saltillo, Mexico, between a Carranza army of 10,000 men and 3,000 Villa troops was indecisive, according to advices received here last night, which reported both sides continuing an artillery bombardment. It is reported that considerable property in the city of Saltillo has been destroyed.

The Villa forces, in possession of the city, are commanded by a brother of the late President Madero, General Antonio Villareal is in command of the Carranza troops.

and at the same time we made progress in the direction of Font D'Aspach and the Khalberg.

The artillery of the enemy, which had endeavored without success to reach our batteries, gave over shooting to our artillery in favor of the exclusive bombardment of the hospitals. Thann, which has been evacuated."

## THE HUGE RUSSIAN ARMY DIVERTS THE COURSE OF THE DRIVE ON WARSAW

Germans Are Now Headed Toward The Vistula and Are In Heavy Mass Between Warsaw and Ivangord, Having Advanced to Mogolnica, Twenty-Six Miles From the Vistula.

## MLAWA BATTLE STILL IN PROGRESS

Russians Continue Great Sweep Toward Hungary and Are Now Only Thirty Miles From Main Entrance—Defeated Turkish Army Again Offensive.

Petrograd, Jan. 9.—Sinking of a Turkish transport is officially confirmed today, stating 900 Turkish soldiers were drowned.

Shattered remnants of the Turkish army defeated at Ardahan and Seri Kamish rallied and again taking the offensive, in an effort to save themselves from total destruction.

Pressure by the huge Russian army has turned the German wedge from the direction of Warsaw. The Germans are now headed toward the Vistula, between Warsaw and Ivangord. The Germans advanced to Mogolnica, twenty-six miles from the Vistula river. Battle in the Mlawka district continues, without decisive results. The Russians continue their sweep toward Hungary. They are now thirty miles from Borspess, the main entrance to Hungary from Bukowina, through the Carpathians.

There was given out in this city yesterday afternoon an official communication from the headquarters staff reading as follows:

"In the combat of Ardahan, in Transcaucasia, forty miles northwest of Kars, we met and defeated the component parts of the Ottoman army which formed part of the first army corps. This corps had been stationed at Constantinople. A number of Baschi Bazuks, brought from Turkey as well as bands of Adjar tribesmen who have taken up the cause of Turkey, fought against us at Ardahan.

"We captured a large quantity of war booty. The cannon made a vast pile, with their trucks, caissons, etc."

## FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS DANGEROUS PROPAGANDA

STABILITY OF SYSTEM STANDS AT MERCY OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL CABINET, IT IS SAID.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—That the federal reserve banks are at the mercy of the secretary of the treasury and the president of the United States, who could wreck the banks with a single draft, was the warning sounded today by Charles Davies, controller of the currency in the McKinley cabinet, speaking at noon today at a luncheon at the Union League Club. He declared immediate and corrective legislation as the most important issue before the American people. He feared the power would be used in the future for political pressure.

### OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM AUSTRIA.

Vienna, Jan. 9.—An official statement on the progress of the war was given out in Vienna yesterday. It follows:

In the Carpathian forest and in the southern part of the crown land of Bukowina, regard for the safety of our advance troops obliged us to fall back on the principal mountain passes before an enemy numerically superior to ourselves.

"On the Hungarian-Galician front everything is quiet; in the higher district there is some frost and snow."

"On the Danube river and in Russian Poland there have been here and there some artillery exchanges."

The situation in the region of Czernowas was in our favor when the Russian advance there was repulsed by our counter attack. We captured 400 prisoners and three machine guns.

"In the southern theatre a Serbian night attack on our advance at Avotv completely failed."

### REPORTED TURKISH GOVERNMENT PANIC STRICKEN.

London, Jan. 8.—A news dispatch from Sofia states the Turkish government is panic stricken and is preparing to move to Adrianople.

We captured also the officer in command of the Turkish artillery. Other prisoners included several dozen officers, and we captured also a large number of soldiers. We buried more than 1,500 bodies of the enemy's soldiers. A regiment of Siberian Cossacks delivered a brilliant charge. These men sabred several companies of the enemy, and captured the flag of the 8th infantry regiment.

"It has been established that the 9th army corps, 30,000 strong, has been destroyed; these detachments were completely annihilated at Sari Kamysli.

"We took possession of all the artillery of this corps, all the generals, more than 300 officers, several thousand Askaris tribesmen who composed the reserves of this corps.

"We still continue to pick up enormous quantities of arms and other trophies thrown down in heaps in the mountains, in the forests and in the ravines, and covered up with snow."

"Our energetic pursuit of what is left of the 10th army corps of the enemy is constantly augmenting our trophies of war. It is at the present time difficult to give any estimate of the valuation of the booty we have taken."

"The Turks apparently cannot relieve the predicament of the 10th corps parts of which reformer hurriedly after the battle of Sari Kamysli, and took the offensive in the region of Refoulizian. Nothing has been reported on the other fronts."

## ENGLAND ADOPTS A PRECEPT OF YE OLDEN TIMES

SENDS AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN FOR FIRST TIME IN FOUR HUNDRED YEARS. JAPAN WILL FOLLOW SUIT.

Amsterdam, Jan. 7.—Dispatches from Japan state that Japan intends to send a diplomatic envoy to the vatican. England recently sent an ambassador to the vatican for the first time in four centuries.

A Tjid dispatch from Rosendal says Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, and archbishop of Malines, was arrested by German authorities and held a prisoner in his own archiepiscopal palace at Malines under military guard.

The report, which has not been confirmed, says the cardinal was arrested because he issued a pastoral letter read Sunday in churches throughout Belgium, which referred to the occupation of Belgium as follows:

"This power has no legal authority and consequently you owe it in your heart neither allegiance nor obedience. The only legal authority in Belgium is that pertaining to our king, his government, and the representatives of the nation."

The Berlin correspondent of the Tjid transmits the following semi-official communication regarding the pastoral letter of Cardinal Mercier, reported arrested by the Germans for advising Belgians not to give allegiance to the German administration:

"Everybody, anti or pro-German, knows that the cardinal was justified in endeavoring in his pastoral letters to console the civilian population in these doubly severe times, and to counsel them to keep quiet. The minister misunderstood the rights of the pulpit and transgressed on his authority when he discussed in his pastoral letters a quarrel between nations."

### RAILROAD DEPOT IN SOUTH CAROLINA BURNED.

Lowryville, S. C., Jan. 8.—The railroad depot was burning this morning. It is believed it was robbed and then fired.

## GERMAN OFFENSIVE WAS A DAY OF AIRCRAFT BOMBARDMENTS GENERALLY

## MULTITUDE RISES TO CHEER WORDS OF THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S JACKSON DAY SPEECH AT INDIANAPOLIS A HEART TO HEART TALK TO PEOPLE. SAYS REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS NOT HAD A NEW IDEA IN THIRTY YEARS.

Aboard President's Special Train, Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 9.—The president is today receiving telegraphic congratulations from many friends on the stirring utterances in Indianapolis yesterday. Suggestions for the creation of a federal labor bureau are particularly receiving consideration. Some of the president's advisers say his reference to 1916 has been misinterpreted, and that the president did not declare himself a candidate for re-nomination. It is said the president deprecates this interpretation.

Indianapolis, Jan. 9.—President Wilson, in a Jackson day speech here yesterday voiced what his hearers believed was a hint that he might be a candidate for the presidency again in 1916. The audience of more than 14,000 persons rose to their feet and cheered until the president called for quiet.

The president had been discussing the Mexican question. Referring to his belief that he knew the temperament and principles of the American people he added that he would not be fit to stay where he was if he did not understand them.

"There may come a time," he declared, "when the American people will have to judge whether I know what I am talking about or not."

There was a slight pause, and then the crowd began cheering.

Realizing the construction that had been put on his words, the president held up his hand and said:

"I did not mean to stir up anything. That was merely preparatory to saying that for at least two more years I am free to think I know the American people."

Previously the president had attacked the republican party, defended the record of his administration on the Mexican policy, the tariff and currency, and declared that a careful examination of the returns from the elections last November showed that if it had been a presidential year, a democrat would have had a majority of about eighty in the electoral college.

The president criticized republican senators who opposed the government ship purchase bill, charging them with being "self-styled friends of business."

He said the republican party has not had a new idea in thirty years, and that the republicans do not know how to do anything but sit on the lid. He added that the government wants the ship purchase bill enacted into law, and "will have it."

The president gravely warned democrats not to break up the solidity of the party. He declared those who did would gain an unenviable position for themselves.

"If a man won't play on a team he must get off the team," he said, and later spoke of himself as the "captain of the democratic team for the present."

### OPPOSES FEDERAL LEASE-HOLD PLAN.

Denver, Col., Jan. 9.—Opposition to any form of federal lease-holding of public domain and its resources and a discussion of industrial disputes, were the outstanding features of the biennial message of Governor E. M. Ammons, submitted to the 20th general assembly yesterday.

The message urges the assembly to "protest against the passage of any lease-hold bill" by congress; declares a federal lease-hold will prevent Colorado from extending its taxing power to forty million acres, and charges that a royalty lease-hold system would "involve a conflict of state and national authority," and tend to make "monopoly cheaper."

The recent Colorado coal miners' strike is discussed at length, the governor advocating the assumption of responsibility for fulfillment of contracts by both organized capital and labor. Under such a plan the governor says "industrial disputes could be determined in courts of justice like other controversies."

The governor urges the establishment of a state police force and recommends the enactment of laws "defining and providing sufficient penalties for treason, sedition and armed resistance to militia or civil officers."

NO GREAT AMOUNT OF DAMAGE IS CLAIMED AS A RESULT, ALTHOUGH IT IS CLAIMED THAT MANY LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST BECAUSE OF THE BLOWING UP OF A DEPOT AT ARMENTIERS.

## OPERATIONS ARE HINDERED

BAD WEATHER AND CONTINUOUS FLOOD OF HEAVY RAINS HAS BEEN THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF THE LULL IN FIGHTING ACTIVITY. GERMANS CLAIM THAT FRENCH ATTACKS HAVE BEEN REPULSED.

Berlin, Jan. 9.—It is officially announced that German air craft bombarded Hazebrouck and Strazeele, and were pursued by a British aeroplane. Result of the bombardment is unknown. Other air men bombarded Armentiers, exploding the railway depot and killing a number of soldiers. German artillery bombarded Armentiers. Near Verdun German aviators bombarded French troops in the Boar forest with success.

Comparative quiet prevails about Przemysl, according to reports from Vienna. Russian attempts to renew the offensive have been ineffectual.

The garrison, these reports say, makes regular sorties, capturing prisoners and war material. Several Carpathian rivers have overflowed their banks, making extensive operations impossible.

In the official statement issued at Berlin issued yesterday, the Germans announce that they have made further gains in the Argonne forest in France, and that attempts of the French to advance in the vicinity of Rheims and in the Vosges mountains have been repulsed. The statement adds that fighting is still in progress for the Alsatian village of Oberburnhaupt.

In Russian Poland, where unfavorable weather is interfering with military operations, the Germans report the capture of 1,000 prisoners. The text of the communication follows:

"In the western theatre of the war, the continuous rains swamped together in Flanders more and more, and our operations in consequence were very much hindered."

"To the east of Rheims the French attempted during the night to take one of our outer trenches, but they were driven back into their own positions by a counter attack, losing fifty prisoners."

"In the center and in the eastern part of the Argonne we made progress. A night attack by the French against our positions on the Huchenkopf, in the Vosges, was repulsed. Repeated French attacks on a height to the west of Sennheim broke down under our artillery fire. We took two officers and more than 100 men as prisoners. Fighting still is going on for the village of Oberburnhaupt, to the south of Sennheim."

"Unfavorable weather is also being experienced in the eastern theatre of the war."

"On the east Prussian frontier and in northern Poland the situation remains unchanged."

"East of the Rawka river our attacks are progressing. One thousand, six hundred Russians were taken as prisoners, and five machine guns were captured by us."

"Only artillery battles took place on the eastern bank of the Pilica river."

### SUPPLEMENTARY ORDERS ARE ISSUED.

Washington, Jan. 9.—In an order issued yesterday by the interstate commerce commission supplementary to orders granting, an increase of 5 per cent. in specified freight rates, the eastern railroads were directed to preserve "existing groupings and relationships, even though by so doing some rates are increased slightly more than 5 per cent."

In the opinion of the commission such relationships "in the interest of carriers and of competition between shippers and receiver" ought to be maintained.

### FLOUR SOARING, AND CHICAGO BAKERIES CLOSE.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—Over 200 small bakeries in Chicago were forced to close as the result of the sensational advance in flour. Many others will be forced to close, with flour around \$7 a barrel. The larger bakeries are planning to raise the price of bread to 6 cents a loaf within two weeks. A movement is starting to urge an embargo on exports of wheat.